



AG UPDATE

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POTATO STOCKS FEBRUARY 1, 2005

Colorado's growers and commercial storage facilities in the San Luis Valley had 12.9 million cwt of potatoes on hand as of February 1, 2005, up 2 percent from the 12.6 million cwt on hand one year earlier. The latest stocks represented 56 percent of the 23.14 million cwt produced in 2004. The February 1, 2004 stocks represented 53 percent of the 23.65 million cwt of potatoes produced in 2003. Sales of Colorado's fall potatoes for **table stock** have accounted for 69 percent of the total production for the 1998-2002 period. The remaining 31 percent of the production is utilized for seed, processing, and home use or is lost through shrinkage.

The **15 major potato States** held 204 million cwt of potatoes in storage February 1, 2005, up 2 percent from last year and 3 percent above 2003. Potatoes in storage account for 51 percent of the 2004 fall storage States' production, 1 percentage point above last year. Stocks by type were 2 percent red, 11 percent round white, 2 percent long white (Shepody), and 85 percent russets, with a smaller percentage of reds and round whites but a larger percentage of russets than a year ago.

Disappearance of 199 million cwt from the start of harvest to February 1, is down 2 percent from last year and 4 percent below two years ago. Shrink and loss, at 22.5 million cwt, is up 10 percent from both last year and the same date in 2003. Processors used 101 million cwt of 2004 crop potatoes so far this season, down 1 percent from a year ago and 6 percent below two years ago. Dehydrating usage accounts for 20.0 million cwt of the total processing, down 9 percent from last year and 16 percent below the same date in 2003.

Western States held 141 million cwt of potatoes in storage on February 1, up 4 percent from last year but 2 percent below two years ago. California's potato stocks are up 19 percent from last year, while Idaho's and Montana's storages both hold 12 percent more. Potato sheds in Colorado stored 2 percent more than last

year. Oregon's potato stocks are down 13 percent and Washington's sheds stored 4 percent less than last year.

Central States accounted for 49.5 million cwt of potato stocks on February 1, down 5 percent from last year but 14 percent above two years ago. Michigan's potato stocks are down 15 percent, Minnesota potato sheds stored 8 percent less than last year, and Wisconsin's stocks decreased 3 percent.

Eastern States stored 13.3 million cwt of potatoes on February 1, up 5 percent from last year and 18 percent above two years ago. New York's stocks are up 18 percent from last year, while Maine stocks increased 6 percent. Pennsylvania's sheds decreased 18 percent from a year ago.

Fall Potatoes: Production and Stocks February 1, 2004-2005

State	Crop of 2003		Crop of 2004	
	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2004	Prod.	Stocks Feb. 1, 2005 <u>1/</u>
	1,000 Cwt		1,000 Cwt	
California	3,528	1,600	3,876	1,900
Colorado	23,652	12,600	23,148	12,900
Idaho	123,180	67,000	131,970	75,000
Main	17,030	10,500	19,220	11,100
Michigan	15,015	6,200	13,650	5,300
Minnesota	22,330	11,100	18,920	10,200
Montana	3,339	2,900	3,551	3,250
Nebraska	9,744	4,600	9,288	<u>1/</u>
New York	6,510	1,100	5,184	1,300
North Dakota . . .	27,440	15,000	26,765	15,300
Ohio	1,097	130	1,080	<u>1/</u>
Oregon	20,991	13,500	19,755	11,800
Pennsylvania . . .	3,375	1,100	2,640	900
Washington	93,150	38,000	93,810	36,500
Wisconsin	32,800	14,900	30,450	14,500
Other States				4,240
15 State Total . .	403,181	200,230	403,327	204,190

1/ Missing stocks combined into "Other States".

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTER

JANUARY 2005

Production of red meat in **Colorado** during January 2005 totaled 136.5 million pounds, down 10 percent from the same month a year earlier and 4 percent below December 2004. **Cattle** slaughter during January was down 13 percent from a year earlier to 160,000 head but the average live weight was up 29 pounds to 1,296. **Hog** slaughter, at 1,000 head, was 100 below January 2004 but the average live weight increased 31 pounds to 275.

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.65 billion pounds in January, down 2 percent from the 3.71 billion pounds produced in January 2004.

Beef production, at 1.92 billion pounds, was slightly below the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 2.53 million head, down 2 percent from January 2004. The average live weight was 1,262 pounds, up 13 pounds from January a year ago.

Veal production totaled 13.3 million pounds, 17 percent below January a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 67,700 head, down 14 percent from January 2004. The average live weight was 329 pounds, down 7 pounds from January a year ago.

Pork production totaled 1.70 billion pounds, down 3 percent from the previous year. Hog kill totaled 8.48 million head, 4 percent below January 2004. The average live weight was 270 pounds, up 1 pound from January a year ago.

Lamb and mutton production, at 14.4 million pounds, was down 7 percent from January 2004. Sheep slaughter totaled 208,500 head, 5 percent below last year. The average live weight was 138 pounds, down 3 pounds from January a year ago.

extended into the 2004 growing season in several areas of the state. The planted acreage of 2,315,000 acres for the 2004 crop was 12 percent less than the 2,630,000 acres planted the previous year and the 1,714,000 acres harvested was 23 percent below the 2,229,000 acres harvested in 2003. Producers abandoned 601,000 acres in 2004 compared with 401,000 in 2003. Producers averaged 27.4 bushels per acre from the 2004 crop compared with 35.1 bushels per acre from the 2003 crop.

Washington County moved up to become the top wheat producing county in Colorado for the 2004 crop by producing 5,815,000 bushels, down 33 percent from the 8,717,000 million bushel crop produced and a second place ranking in 2003. Acreage planted for the 2004 crop was down 9 percent from the previous year to 235,500 acres which was the second highest of any county in the state. The 218,500 acres harvested was the highest in the state but was 3 percent lower than the 224,600 acres harvested in 2003. The average yield in 2004, at 26.5 bushels per acre, was 12.5 bushels below the 2003 crop average of 39.0 bushels per acre.

Adams County jumped to a second place ranking for the 2004 crop with a total output of 4,767,000 bushels. The planted area of 155,800 acres was 3 percent less than the previous year but the 143,600 acres harvested actually increased 19 percent from the 121,000 acres harvested in 2003. The average yield of 33.0 bushels per acre was 3.0 bushels per acre above the 2003 average of 30.0 bushels per acre.

Logan County maintained the third place ranking in 2004 with a total output of 3,936,000 bushels. The latest crop was 33 percent below the 5,840,000 bushels produced the previous year. Producers harvested 135,800 acres in 2004 compared with 160,000 acres a year earlier. The county's average yield of 29.0 bushels per acre was 7.5 bushels below the previous year.

Weld County had the fourth largest winter wheat crop in the state with a total output of 3,843,000 bushels. The 2004 crop was 22 percent lower than the 2003 crop of 4,907,000 bushels. Producers decreased the planted area by 20 percent to 136,800 acres for the 2004 crop and harvested 123,300 acres, down from the 141,300 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield of 31.0 bushels per acre on the 2004 crop was 3.5 bushels per acre below the 2003 crop average.

Kit Carson County completed the list of the top five winter wheat producing counties in the state in 2004 by producing 3,750,000 bushels. The latest crop was approximately one-third of the 2003 crop of 11,470,000 bushels which ranked number one in the state for 2003. Producers planted 280,000 acres for the 2004 crop, down 18 percent from the previous year and harvested 129,000 acres, down 57 percent due to a freeze and weed infestation. In addition, the average yield of 29.0 bushels

Red Meat Production Colorado and United States

Area and Specie	Jan. 2004	Dec. 2004	Jan. 2005	Jan. 2005 as % of	
				Jan. 2004	Dec. 2004
Million Pounds					
Colorado:	151.0	142.0	136.5	90	96
United States: . . .	3,714.0	3,931.0	3,647.0	98	93
Beef	1,924.0	2,042.0	1,915.0	100	94
Veal	16.0	14.9	13.3	83	89
Pork	1,758.0	1,857.0	1,704.0	97	92
Lamb & Mutton	15.4	17.0	14.4	93	85

COUNTY ESTIMATES

ALL WHEAT 2004

Colorado's total wheat crop produced in 2004 totaled 46.88 million bushels, 40 percent below the 78.16 million bushels produced in 2003. All wheat includes both winter and spring planted crops but excludes durum wheat. Dry conditions during fall planting for winter wheat

per acre in 2004 was 9.0 bushels below the 38.0 bushel average realized from the 2003 crop.

The top five producing counties accounted for 22,111,000 bushels in 2004, representing 47 percent of the state's total output of 48,880,000 bushels. The next five leading counties had a combined output of 13,825,000 bushels, bringing the total for the top ten counties to 35,936,000 bushels or 77 percent of the state total. The sixth through the tenth counties with the percent change from the previous year and the 2004 production for each county were as follows: **Yuma County**, down 46 percent to 3,110,000 bushels; **Baca County**, down 47 percent from the 2003 crop to 3,100,000 bushels; **Sedgwick County**, down 34 percent to 2,830,000 bushels; **Lincoln County**, down 18 percent to 2,665,000 bushels; and **Morgan County**, down 11 percent to 2,120,000 bushels.

COUNTY ESTIMATES BARLEY 2004

Colorado's drought conditions eased slightly during 2004 which enabled producers to increase barley production for the second straight year. The 2004 crop totaled 9,086,000 bushels, 2 percent above the 8,938,000 bushels produced the previous year. Producers planted 80,000 acres in 2004, down 5,000 acres from a year earlier and the harvested area of 77,000 acres was down 6 percent from the 82,000 acres harvested a year earlier. The state's average yield of 118.0 bushels per acre, a Colorado barley yield record, was 9.0 bushels above the previous year and is a record per acre yield for barley.

Saguache County led all barley producing area of the state by producing 2,440,000 bushels in 2004. The latest crop was 33 percent larger than the 1,840,000 bushels produced in 2003 and represented 27 percent of the state's total output of 9,086,000 bushels. Producers in Saguache County harvested 16,900 acres in 2004 compared with 14,500 acres the previous year, an increase of 17 percent. The average yield of 144.5 bushels per acre for 2004 was 17.5 bushels above the 2003 crop average of 127.0 bushels per acre.

Rio Grande County dropped to the second largest barley producing area of the state with a total production of 2,070,000 bushels in 2004, up 6 percent from the 1,960,000 bushels produced a year earlier. The 14,900 acres harvested in 2004 were down 4 percent from the previous year. In addition, the average yield of 139.0 bushels per acre was 12.5 bushels per acre above the 126.5 bushel average for the previous year's crop.

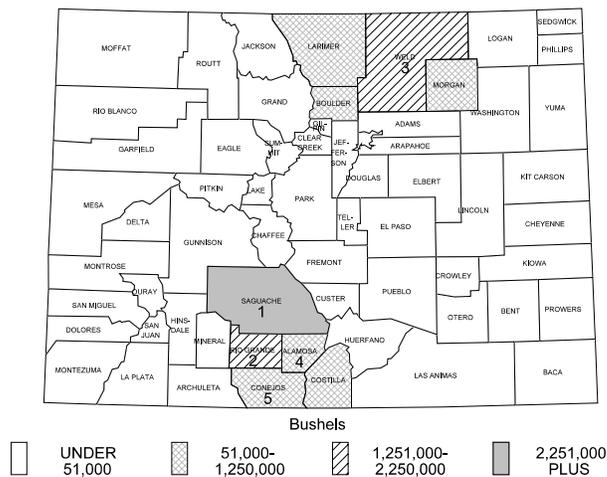
Weld County kept a third place ranking for the 2004 crop by producing 1,485,000 bushels, down 7 percent from the 1,591,000 bushels produced in 2003. The harvested area of 14,600 acres decreased 16 percent from the 17,400 acres harvested the previous year. The average yield for the county, at 101.5 bushels per acre, was 10.0 bushels per acre above the previous year's average of 91.5 bushels per acre.

Alamosa County maintained a fourth place ranking as its 2004 barley output of 1,250,000 bushels was up slightly to 1,240,000 bushels produced the previous year. The harvested area of 9,900 acres was 100 acres below a year earlier. Per acre yields in the county were also higher than the previous year, averaging 126.5 bushels for the 2004 crop compared with 124.0 bushels per acre from the 2003 crop.

Conejos County completed the listing of the top five barley producing counties in the state with a total production of 770,000 bushels in 2004. The latest crop was 15 percent larger than the previous year's output of 670,000 bushels. The harvested area of 6,800 acres was 1,300 acres above the previous year. In addition, the average yield for the county, at 113.0 bushels per acre, was 9.0 bushels per acre below the previous year's average of 122.0 bushels.

The top five producing counties accounted for 88 percent of the state's total barley crop of 9,086,000 bushels produced in 2004. Other top producing counties with the percent change in production from the previous year and the 2004 output were as follows: **Costilla County**, down 51 percent to 370,000 bushels; **Larimer County**, down 28 percent to 187,000 bushels; **Boulder County**, down 19 percent to 178,000 bushels.

**Barley: Production by County, Colorado, 2004
with Ranking of First Five Counties**



NOTE:

More detailed reports are available upon request from this office. The full report is also available at the Internet address listed on the front page of this report.

MILK PRODUCTION JANUARY 2005

Milk production in the 23 major States during January totaled 13.2 billion pounds, up 1.3 percent from January 2004. December production, at 13.0 billion pounds, was up 1.2 percent from December 2003. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,637 pounds for January, 13 pounds above January 2004. The number of cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.08 million head, 38,000 head more than January 2004, but 15,000 head less than December 2004.

Milk Cows and Milk Production 23 Major States

Item	Jan. 2004	Dec. 2004	Jan. 2005
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u> . . .	8,044	8,097	8,082
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	1,624	1,610	1,637
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	13,061	13,037	13,229

1/ Includes dry cows. Excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

MILK PRODUCTION ANNUAL 2004

Colorado's total output of milk during 2004 totaled 2.18 billion pounds, up 1 percent from 2.15 billion pounds produced during 2003. The annual total for 2004 marks the ninth consecutive year of record high production in the state and is the third consecutive year that production has exceeded two billion pounds.

The average number of milk cows for 2004 was 102,000 up 2 percent from a year earlier. The average production per cow for 2004 decreased 118 pounds from the previous year to 21,412 pounds. The average output per cow in Colorado was exceeded by only by the states of Washington, Arizona and Idaho where the averages were 22,852, 22,788 and 21,446, respectively.

The annual production of milk for the U.S. during 2004 was 170.8 billion pounds, 0.2 percent above 2003. Revisions to 2003 production increased the annual total 82 million pounds. Revised 2004 production was up 0.2 percent or 323 million pounds from last month's publication. Production per cow in the U.S. averaged 18,957 pounds for 2004, 197 pounds above 2003. The average annual rate of milk production per cow has increased 16 percent from 1995. The average number of milk cows on farms in the U.S. during 2004 was 9.01 million head, down 0.8 percent from 2003. The average number of milk cows was revised down 1,000 head for 2003, and up 1,000 head for 2004.

Annual Milk Production, Colorado and United States, 2002-2004

Item	2002	2003	2004
Colorado			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	100	100	102
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	21,590	21,530	21,412
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	2,159	2,153	2,184
United States			
Milk Cows (1,000 head) <u>1/</u>	9,139	9,083	9,010
Milk Per Cow (lbs.) <u>2/</u>	18,608	18,760	18,957
Production (mil. lbs.) <u>2/</u>	170,063	170,394	170,805

1/ Average number during year, excludes heifers not yet fresh.

2/ Excludes milk sucked by calves.

UPCOMING REPORTS

Colorado and U.S. data from most of the following reports will appear in subsequent issues of AG UPDATE. However, those who have an immediate need for the data may call this office after 1:15 P.M. on the day of release - toll free 1-800-392-3202. The complete USDA report is also available on the Worldwide Web at:

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- Feb. 18 - Cattle on Feed
- Feb. 22 - Cold Storage
- Feb. 24 - Chickens And Eggs
- Feb. 25 - Trout
- Feb. 27 - Agricultural Prices
- Feb. 28 - Honey
- Mar. 4 - Livestock Slaughter - Annual
- Mar. 14 - Turkey Hatchery
- Mar. 15 - Potato Stocks

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